

Senate File 247 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 247
BY COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1115)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for the possession of cats classified as
2 bengals and savannahs.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 717F.1, subsection 5, paragraph b, Code
2 2013, is amended to read as follows:

3 *b. "Dangerous wild animal"* includes an animal which is the
4 offspring of an animal provided in paragraph "a", and another
5 animal provided in that paragraph or any other animal. It also
6 includes animals which are the offspring of each subsequent
7 generation. However, a dangerous wild animal does not include
8 any of the following:

9 (1) The offspring of a domestic dog and a wolf, or the
10 offspring from each subsequent generation in which at least one
11 parent is a domestic dog.

12 (2) (a) The offspring of a domestic cat and another member
13 of the family felidae classified as a bengal with an ancestor
14 classified as an Asian leopard cat which is a member of the
15 species prionailurus bengalensis. The bengal must be the
16 fourth or later filial generation of offspring with the first
17 filial generation being the offspring of a domestic cat and an
18 Asian leopard cat, and each subsequent generation being the
19 offspring of a domestic cat.

20 (b) The offspring of a domestic cat and another member of
21 the family felidae classified as a savannah with an ancestor
22 classified as a serval which is a member of the species
23 leptailurus serval. The savannah must be the fourth or later
24 filial generation of offspring with the first filial generation
25 being the offspring of a domestic cat and a serval, and each
26 subsequent generation being the offspring of a domestic cat.

27 EXPLANATION

28 GENERAL. This bill amends Code chapter 717F, which
29 regulates the possession of dangerous wild animals under
30 the authority of the department of agriculture and land
31 stewardship. Generally, the Code chapter prohibits a
32 person from owning or possessing a dangerous wild animal
33 or transporting a dangerous wild animal into this state
34 unless the person is licensed by the United States department
35 of agriculture and registered by the Iowa department of

1 agriculture and land stewardship. A dangerous animal includes
2 cats (classified as belonging to the family felidae) other than
3 domestic cats. It also includes the offspring of a dangerous
4 wild animal and any subsequent generation of offspring.

5 EXEMPTING CATS CLASSIFIED AS F-4 BENGALS AND SAVANNAHS. The
6 bill provides an exemption for a cat classified as a bengal
7 which is a cross between a domestic cat and an Asian leopard
8 cat or classified as a savannah which is a cross between a
9 domestic cat and a serval. In both cases the bill requires
10 a separation of four filial generations between the Asian
11 leopard cat or serval and the exempted cat. The generations
12 are calculated by counting from the first filial generation
13 which is the offspring of the original crossing. The filial
14 generations are sometimes referred to as F-1 through F-4 to
15 identify the first four filial generations of offspring. The
16 bill's exemption applies to those cats classified as F-4
17 bengals and savannahs.